

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA  
STATESVILLE DIVISION  
5:07cv102**

**MISTY M. WATTS,**

**Plaintiff,**

**Vs.**

**RUBY TUESDAY, INC.; and  
JON-JAY ASSOCIATES, INC.,**

**Defendants.**

---

)  
)  
)  
)  
)  
)  
)  
)  
)  
)  
)

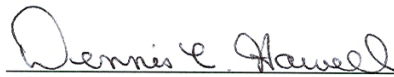
**ORDER**

**THIS MATTER** is before the court on the court's Motion for Case Status. The time for serving defendant Jon-Jay Associates, Inc., expired not later than January 11, 2008, defendant Ruby Tuesday, Inc., Answered October 22, 2007, and no one has filed a Certificate of Initial Attorney's Conference, which was due at the latest January 31, 2008. Joinder of the issues occurs "when the final answer to a complaint, third-party complaint, or crossclaim or the final reply to counterclaim has been filed, *or the time for doing so has expired.*" L.Cv.R. 16.1(D)(emphasis added). Joinder of the issues triggers a responsibility of counsel under Local Civil Rule 16.1(A) to conduct an initial attorneys conference within 14 days and under Local Civil Rule 16.1(B) to file the CIAC within 5 days thereof.

## **ORDER**

**IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED** that the court's Motion for Case Status is **GRANTED**, and the parties shall conduct the IAC and file the CIAC not later than February 22, 2008.

Signed: February 13, 2008

\_\_\_\_\_

Dennis L. Howell  
United States Magistrate Judge

